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APR - 9 2004

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R.

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 2600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor :

: Gary E. Bement et al.

Appln. No.: 09/970,125

: October 3, 2001

For

SUSPENSION SYSTEM WITH

ADJUSTABLE PRE-LOAD

Examiner:

Allen J. Heinz

Group Art Unit: 2653

Docket No.: S01.12-0718/STL 9917

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450. ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, THIS

PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on February 9, 2004. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.